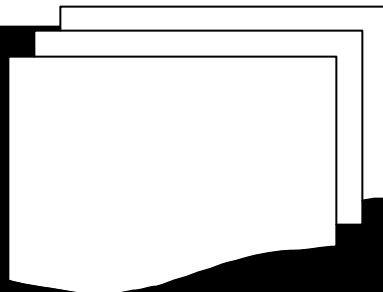


# the physical disability FILE



information for and about people with physical disabilities

## Resources for Older Adults

As we age, our capabilities are likely to change and diminish. Some of us will develop weakened eyesight that can be corrected with glasses. Others will experience difficulties with mobility, hearing or speech. Yet many of us will not consider ourselves to be people with disabilities.

Regardless of how we perceive ourselves or our conditions, it can be worthwhile to seek out information and assistance from agencies that serve people with disabilities. You can find out how to obtain home and personal security devices for contacting emergency assistance. You can learn how to modify your residence to accommodate arthritis or the use of a walker, scooter or wheelchair. You can locate large print dials and switches for many home appliances, or where and how to purchase assistive listening devices. You can discover communication opportunities with telecommunication devices for people with hearing loss, and reading machines that convert printed matter to synthesized speech.

These and many other services are available from Wisconsin's eight independent living centers (ILC). The Centers are consumer-directed, non-profit organizations that provide an array of services, including: assistive technology, peer support, information and referral, independent living skills training, personal care and service coordination, advocacy, and community education. Information about ILCs is on the internet: [www.dhfs.state.wi.us/Disabilities/Physical/ILCs.htm](http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/Disabilities/Physical/ILCs.htm).

Farmers can learn about assistive technology for agriculture by contacting the AgrAbility program. For information, call Jessica Danziger at 608/262-9336 (voice) or 1-800/947-3529 (Telecommunication Relay Service). Information about AgrAbility is on the internet at: [bse.wisc.edu/agrability](http://bse.wisc.edu/agrability). General information about assistive technology is available from the WisTech program, on the internet at: [www.wistech.state.wi.us](http://www.wistech.state.wi.us).

Don't let the word *disability* keep you from resources that can help you live an independent and satisfying life.